NewsRelease

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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In an effort to inspire the next generation of Hispanic engineers and scientists, NASA Langley Research Center and Univision in Puerto Rico have partnered to broadcast Noticiencias NASA™, a series of one-minute video-and web-based programs, targeted for students in grades 3-5.

The educational programs will start airing on Dec. 13 during their Saturday morning children's programming starting at 8 a.m. Offered by NASA Langley's Center for Distance Learning, the programs are designed to turn kids on to the excitement and fun of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, in the hope that they will want to pursue careers in those fields.

"Currently, there is a serious shortage of Hispanic men and women entering the fields of science, mathematics and engineering," says Ivelisse Gilman, who manages NASA Langley's Hispanic Education Initiative. According to Gilman, through this program NASA hopes to encourage Hispanic children to follow in the steps of Hispanic engineers and scientists, many of whom are graduates of the University of Puerto Rico and are making contributions to NASA's space and aeronautics program.

As part of the partnership, NASA and Univision will produce some of the programs in Puerto Rico, featuring Puerto Rican children. NASA will also hold a series of educational mathematics, science and technology outreach activities involving area teachers and students.



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"We want our youth to begin to experience up-close the fascinating world of science and mathematics," says Ivelisse Estrada, vice-president of Corporate and Community Relations for Univision Comunications.

"The presentation of this material is in a form that is incredibly enriching and entertaining, so that children can experience the wonderful opportunities that these two fields open up to them," says Estrada.

Univision Communications Inc. is the premier Spanish-language media company in the United States. Its operations include Univision Network, the most-watched Spanish-language broadcast television network in the U.S. reaching 97% of U.S. Hispanic households; TeleFutura Network, Univision Television Group; TeleFutura Television Group; Galavisión; Univision Radio; Univision Music Group; and Univision Online, the premier Spanish-language Internet destination in the U.S.

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